

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

AHMED H. ALI,

Plaintiff(s),

v.

S2 VERIFY, LLC, et al.,

Defendant(s).

Case No. C13-1838RAJ

**ORDER REGARDING INITIAL
DISCLOSURES, JOINT STATUS
REPORT, AND EARLY
SETTLEMENT**

I. INITIAL SCHEDULING DATES

The Court sets the following dates for initial disclosure and submission of the
Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan:

Deadline for FRCP 26(f) Conference:	January 6, 2014
Initial Disclosures Pursuant to FRCP 26(a)(1):	January 13, 2014
Combined Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan as Required by FRCP 26(f) and Local Civil Rule 26(f):	January 21, 2014

1 The deadlines above may be extended only by the Court. Any request for an
2 extension should be made by telephone to Victoria Ericksen, Courtroom Deputy, at
3 (206) 370-8517. If Defendants have appeared, the parties are directed to meet and confer
4 before contacting the court to request an extension.

5 If this case involves claims which are exempt from the requirements of FRCP
6 26(a) and 26(f), please notify Victoria Ericksen, Courtroom Deputy, by telephone at
7 (206) 370-8517.

8 **II. JOINT STATUS REPORT & DISCOVERY PLAN**

9 All counsel and any pro se parties are directed to confer and provide the Court
10 with a combined Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan (the "Report") by January 21,
11 2014. This conference shall be by direct and personal communication, whether that be a
12 face-to-face meeting or a telephonic conference. The Report will be used in setting a
13 schedule for the prompt completion of the case. It must contain the following
14 information by corresponding paragraph numbers:

- 15 1. A statement of the nature and complexity of the case.
- 16 2. A proposed deadline for joining additional parties.
- 17 3. The parties have the right to consent to assignment of this case to a full
18 time United States Magistrate Judge, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §636(c) and Local Rule MJR
19 13, to conduct all proceedings. The Western District of Washington assigns a wide range
20 of cases to Magistrate Judges. The Magistrate Judges of this district thus have significant
21 experience in all types of civil matters filed in our court. The parties should indicate
22
23

1 whether they agree that the Honorable Brian A. Tsuchida may conduct all proceedings
2 including trial and the entry of judgment. When responding to this question, the parties
3 should only respond "yes" or "no." Individual party responses should not be provided. A
4 "yes" response should be indicated only if all parties consent. Otherwise, a "no" response
5 should be provided.

6 4. A discovery plan that states, by corresponding paragraph letters (A, B, etc.),
7 the parties' views and proposals on all items set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3), which
8 includes the following topics:
9

- 10 (A) initial disclosures;
- 11 (B) subjects, timing, and potential phasing of discovery;
- 12 (C) electronically stored information;
- 13 (D) privilege issues;
- 14 (E) proposed limitations on discovery; and
- 15 (F) the need for any discovery related orders.

16 5. The parties' views, proposals, and agreements, by corresponding paragraph
17 letters (A, B, etc.) on all items set forth in Local Civil Rule 26(f)(1), which includes the
18 following topics:
19

- 20 (A) prompt case resolution;
- 21 (B) alternative dispute resolution;
- 22 (C) related cases;
- 23 (D) discovery management;

- (E) anticipated discovery sought;
- (F) phasing motions;
- (G) preservation of discoverable information;
- (H) privilege issues;
- (I) Model Protocol for Discovery of ESI; and
- (J) alternatives to Model Protocol.

6. The date by which discovery can be completed.

7. Whether the case should be bifurcated by trying the liability issues before the damages issues, or bifurcated in any other way.

8. Whether the pretrial statements and pretrial order called for by Local Civil Rules 16(e), (h), (i), and (k), and 16.1 should be dispensed with in whole or in part for the sake of economy.

9. Whether the parties intend to utilize the Individualized Trial Program set forth in Local Civil Rule 39.2 or any ADR options set forth in Local Civil Rule 39.1.

10. Any other suggestions for shortening or simplifying the case.

11. The date the case will be ready for trial. The Court expects that most civil cases will be ready for trial within a year after filing the Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan.

12. Whether the trial will be jury or non-jury.

13. The number of trial days required.

14. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all trial counsel.

1 parties who appear after this Order is filed. Such service shall be accomplished within ten
2 (10) after each appearance. Plaintiff's counsel (or plaintiff, if pro se) will be responsible
3 for starting the communications needed to comply with this Order.

4 **IV. JUDGE-SPECIFIC PROCEDURAL INFORMATION**

5 All counsel and unrepresented parties should review Judge Jones' web page for
6 procedural information applicable to cases before Judge Jones. The judges' web pages,
7 in addition to the Local Rules, Electronic Filing Procedures for Civil and Criminal Cases,
8 court forms, instruction sheets, and General Orders, can be found on the Court's website
9 at www.wawd.uscourts.gov.
10

11 **V. PILOT PROJECT: CAMERAS IN THE COURTROOM**

12 The Western District of Washington is participating in the Judiciary's Pilot Project
13 on Cameras in the Courtroom. This project is a three-year study to evaluate the effects of
14 cameras in the courtrooms. This case is eligible to have proceedings video recorded and
15 made available to the public via the U.S. Court's and Western District of Washington's
16 web sites. Even if the parties consent in their joint status report, the Court will not
17 automatically record all proceedings in the case. Instead, parties must provide consent to
18 the recording of each proceeding in a case.

19 If the parties indicate that they consent in their joint status report, notice will be
20 sent prior to each scheduled proceeding seeking consent of all parties to have the
21 scheduled proceeding recorded. If all parties consent, and the judge approves, the
22 hearing will be recorded and made available to the public as part of the pilot project.
23

VI. EARLY SETTLEMENT CONSIDERATION AND NOTIFICATION

If settlement is achieved, counsel shall immediately notify Victoria Ericksen, Courtroom Deputy, at (206) 370-8517.

The parties are responsible for complying with the terms of this Order. The Court may impose sanctions on any party who fails to comply fully with this Order.

DATED this 5th day of December, 2013.

/s/ Richard A. Jones

RICHARD A. JONES
United States District Judge